John Pilger 4/25 69: When meet, discuss wordage about Ray

West

[illegible] answering letters, did not tell me you location (when I phoned about something else he said still Australia). I used the successful means. I had expected you'd be going to England by way of the US. There are some things I wanted to show you before you got to England. That is now academic.

Sometimes, when we meet people, we impulsively and with the most serious intentions of doing so, make offers that later are a problem or a bore. You said there were people you would speak to in England. Do not feel badly if you have forgotten or don't want to. However, I explain this: the average media attitude toward the assassination is partly warranted, for those with public-relations help are listened to but invariably repeat the past or come through as irresponsible and not to be trusted. Also, understanding what is new, important and usually exciting sometimes requires understanding of some of what is known and, save for bright people, may require refering to that.

However, there is an enormous amount of what is new, is scandalous, should make good reading at the least. I have much, parts of it written. Since seeing you I have copyrighted three limited editions. I now know what the autopsy pictures and X-rays show, what was done with and to them. I also know, even have receipts for, some of what was destroyed, know by whom, when and there, now, under whose orders and am confident the why I'll surely is credible (that book is only partly written). To the completed book on the three assassinations (boasting: no word of which requires changing after two trials) I'll be adding what is new: that Ray was framed, that there was no evidence making him the murdered, that his "friends" were party to it and why. Here I refer to both Foreman and Guie. I have the closest thing to proof that he would not have been electrocuted and that his counsel had every right to be confident he would not, from an official and very proper source. I could go onxand on. I have two of three books on the a topsy done. They include the charge of perjury in the testimony and the irrefutable proof of it, and they move the subject into a different area, not that of the Commission but that of government, especially the Attorney Gen., that good ole Texas boy Ramsey Clark (Dallas).

The problem with what I have written is that it is part of an enormous task I have undertaken, is chiefly designed for a complete record, as, perforce, is all first-draft. I have no time for editing. That time I use for more research, investigating and writing.

If you are not returning to this country any time soon, [illegible] I could trust and would give your people a reasonable evaluation, in the event they would get interested. If you are, I could meet you at the Washington or Baltimore airports, from which we are but an hour, and you could also stay here. You said you plan a Washington trip.

Now, there is a favor I might ask of you. I have asked another to try. I want a copy of all the documents used in the Dow St. Magistrate's court in the Ray case. I would like to see the trial transcript, at least the testimony the US government put in, such as fingerprints, ballistics, etc. Can you help? If the one I have asked cannot get the documents, could you ask the US embassy for a set? They are all public now because they are part of the proceeding. I want some devil exercise; I love scripture. If this can be borrowed, I'll gladly deposit the replacement cost in advance.

Sorry I had the wrong paper, especially because the wrong one pays well, looks for scandal and has the Sunday issue, which is so big over there. I want to try and exploit the collateral rights to get enough money to publish the books. I'm too far in debt to risk added indebtedness. With the fear of the subject in thisxcountry, and without a highly improbable angel, there is no other way I can achieve publication. Imagine, such material and unpublishable! What a society, what a world!

From the look on your face, the first thing I remember from my temporary blackout in N.O., I am confident you recall it. Well, there is xstillx a knot over the left eye, I still have not recovered the

sense of balance I had (slightly impaired then) and the blow on the right knee, not discovered until late the next day, when it began to ache and stiffen, apparently caused a bursitis condition that gradually worsens. I force myself to regular and uncomfortable exercises but they do not prevent the very rapid aging on my knees and legs. I now spend part of every day in physical exercise, like cutting trees down and into firewood, digging, etc. I like it and maybe it is slowing things down. But it is neither cure nor preventive. Oh to be half again your age again!

As you see, the estimate I gave you of New Orleans was precisely accurate, as was the caution. It was quite painful to be so correct. I wish I could write the story of what I blundered into there on my unexpected return from Dallas, and its consequences. That book would be saleable.

Best regards, hope you do come back soon, and thanks for anything you can do.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg